Amendment to the Specification:

Please amend the Specification at the paragraph beginning on page 14, lines 14 and ending at page 15, line 3 as follows:

The polymer composite furthermore optionally comprises one or more cross-linking agents or curing systems. The invention is not limited to a special curing system, suitable curing systems include sulfur and peroxide curing systems, ~~however,~~ peroxide curing system are preferred. Furthermore, the invention is not limited to a special peroxide curing system. For example, inorganic or organic peroxides are suitable. For example, organic peroxides such as dialkylperoxides, ketalperoxides, aralkylperoxides, peroxide ethers, peroxide esters, such as di-tert.-butylperoxide, bis-(tert.-butylperoxyisopropyl)-benzene, dicumylperoxide, 2,5-dimethyl-2,5-di(tert.-butylperoxy)-hexane, 2,5-dimethyl-2,5-di(tert.-butylperoxy)-hexene-(3), 1,1-bis-(tert.-butylperoxy)-3,3,5-trimethyl-cyclohexane, benzoylperoxide, tert.-butylcumylperoxide and tert.-butylperbenzoate are useful in the present invention. Usually the amount of peroxide in the polymer composite is in the range of from 1 to 10 phr (= per hundred rubber), or for example, from 4 to 8 phr. Subsequent curing is usually performed at a temperature in the range of from 100 to 200 °C, or for example, 130 to 180 °C. Peroxides might be applied advantageously in a polymer-bound form. Suitable systems are commercially available, such as Polydispersion T(VC) D-40 P from Rhein Chemie Rheinau GmbH, D (polymerbound di-tert.-butylperoxy-isopropylbenzene).